

WE CLAIM

1. A removable physical media bearing a computer program operable to control a
5 computer to detecting malware by performing the steps of:

booting said computer with a non-installed operating system read from said
removable physical media instead of an installed operating system stored on said
computer;

loading network support code for said computer read from said removable
10 physical media;

downloading from a remote computer one or more malware detection files;
and

performing malware detection upon said computer using said one or more
malware detection files.

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2. A removable physical media as claimed in claim 1, wherein said one or more
malware detection files include at least one of:

malware definition data containing data characteristic of malware to be
detected;

20 a malware detecting engine operable to control said computer to perform said
malware detection;

a malware application shell; and

malware detection option settings operable to configure optional settings of
said malware detection.

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3. A removable physical media as claimed in claim 1, wherein said steps further
comprise loading security management code operable to control said downloading.

4. A removable physical media as claimed in claim 1, wherein said steps further
30 comprise establishing a secure network connection to said remote computer.

5. A removable physical media as claimed in 4, wherein a firewall computer
disposed between said computer and said remote computer is operable to block a

connection between said computer and said remote computer other than said secure network connection.

6. A removable physical media as claimed in claim 1, wherein said non-installed
5 operating system is a Windows PE operating system.

7. A removable physical media as claimed in claim 1, wherein said removable
physical media is one of:
an optical disk;
10 a floppy disk;
a memory card; and
a removable disk drive.

8. A removable physical media as claimed in claim 1, wherein malware to be
15 detected includes one or more of:
a computer virus;
a computer Trojan;
a computer worm;
a banned computer application;
20 a data file associated with a malware file; and
configuration settings of said computer associated with a malware file.

9. A method of detecting malware upon a computer said method comprising the
steps of:
25 booting said computer with a non-installed operating system read from a
removable physical media instead of an installed operating system stored on said
computer;
loading network support code for said computer read from said removable
physical media;
30 downloading from a remote computer one or more malware detection files;
and
performing malware detection upon said computer using said one or more
malware detection files.

10. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said one or more malware detection files include at least one of:

malware definition data containing data characteristic of malware to be detected;

5 a malware detecting engine operable to control said computer to perform said malware detection;

a malware application shell; and

malware detection option settings operable to configure optional settings of said malware detection.

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11. A method as claimed in claim 9, comprising loading security management code operable to control said downloading.

12. A method as claimed in claim 9, comprising establishing a secure network
15 connection to said remote computer.

13. A method as claimed in 12, wherein a firewall computer disposed between said computer and said remote computer is operable to block a connection between said computer and said remote computer other than said secure network connection.

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14. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said non-installed operating system is a Windows PE operating system.

15. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said removable physical media is
25 one of:

an optical disk;

a floppy disk;

a memory card; and

a removable disk drive.

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16. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein malware to be detected includes one or more of:

a computer virus;

a computer Trojan;

a computer worm;
a banned computer application;
a data file associated with a malware file; and
configuration settings of said computer associated with a malware file.

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17. A computer operable to detect malware upon said computer by performing the steps of:

booting said computer with a non-installed operating system read from a removable physical media instead of an installed operating system stored on said
10 computer;

loading network support code for said computer read from said removable physical media;

downloading from a remote computer one or more malware detection files;
and

15 performing malware detection upon said computer using said one or more malware detection files.

18. A computer as claimed in claim 17, wherein said one or more malware detection files include at least one of:

20 malware definition data containing data characteristic of malware to be detected;

a malware detecting engine operable to control said computer to perform said malware detection;

a malware application shell; and

25 malware detection option settings operable to configure optional settings of said malware detection.

19. A computer as claimed in claim 17, wherein said steps further comprise loading security management code operable to control said downloading.

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20. A computer as claimed in claim 17, wherein said steps further comprise establishing a secure network connection to said remote computer.

21. A computer as claimed in 20, wherein a firewall computer disposed between said computer and said remote computer is operable to block a connection between said computer and said remote computer other than said secure network connection.
- 5 22. A computer as claimed in claim 17, wherein said non-installed operating system is a Windows PE operating system.
23. A computer as claimed in claim 17, wherein said removable physical media is one of:
- 10 an optical disk;
a floppy disk;
a memory card; and
a removable disk drive.
- 15 24. A computer as claimed in claim 17, wherein malware to be detected includes one or more of:
- a computer virus;
a computer Trojan;
a computer worm;
20 a banned computer application;
a data file associated with a malware file; and
configuration settings of said computer associated with a malware file.
- 25 25. A server computer connected by a network link to a computer detecting malware upon said computer by performing the steps of:
- booting said computer with a non-installed operating system read from a removable physical media instead of an installed operating system stored on said computer;
loading network support code for said computer read from said removable
30 physical media;
downloading from a server computer one or more malware detection files; and
performing malware detection upon said computer using said one or more malware detection files.